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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Reservist Training in the 4th MD

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PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT Until early August 1949

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 30 November 1949

REFERENCES

25X1A

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Reservists of the 4th MD were trained in the ORENOV LAZ (C 49/C 71) - BANSKA BYSTRICA (C 49/C 76) - BANSKA STIAVNICA (C 49/C 53) area from mid-July to early August 1949.

2. About thirty thousand troops were involved in the practices, most of them being reservists of the 4th MD. Only the officers and NCOs were detached from regular units.

Most of the reservists had to report at the ORENOV LAZ troop training grounds and were issued clothes, arms and equipment. They were discharged from there immediately after the training period.

The troops bivouacked in tent camps.

3. So-called "people's officers", trainees of officer candidate schools, were appointed acting platoon and company commanders.

4. The reservist training stressed combat against partisans, combat in woods and political indoctrination by education officers.

No live ammunition was issued. One mortar unit did not even have practice ammunition.

It repeatedly happened that officers or soldiers, who went to the woods to take a nap, had to be searched for. Most of the reservists were hardly interested in the training activities.

5. All indoctrination officers were Czechs. The reservist training period was introduced by a large political rally.

All Communist Party members among the reservists were registered during the practice period. They were specially trained by the indoctrination officers and were appointed as political eavesdroppers within their units.

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The NOV/troop training grounds is located in the 4th MD area. Another [REDACTED] reported a construction company of the PRATISLAVA 4th ngr regt to be stationed there as a permanent guard unit. The report on the reservist training maneuvers is considered credible, although no pertinent previous information is available.

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